



G.P. 27621

SD5926/S87506  
Patent Application

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

#5/A  
mc  
11-10-98

Applicants: Pryor et al.

Group: 2764

Serial No.: 08/791,724

Paper No.: 5

Filed: 1/29/97

Examiner: Kemper, M

For: Method of Predicting a Change in an Economy

**RECEIVED**  
NOV 04 1998  
Group 2700

**AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action mailed 9/3/1998, and submit the following in complete response thereto, and request reconsideration of the Claims presented.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel Claim 9.

**REMARKS**

In further support of the Claims presented, Applicants provide the following discussion.

**STATUS OF THE CLAIMS**

The Office rejected Claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over "Microsimulated Transactions Model" in view of *Leijonhufvud*.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention comprises a method for predicting a change in an economy. The Specification teaches, and the Claims embrace, representing decision-makers by a plurality of software agents, where each agent comprises internal state and decision rules governing its actions. Agents can generate output messages and internal state changes responsive to input